the writer of the letter has misunderstood the passages he has quoted, and is mistaken in thinking that the Papal teaching in the Encyclical on Christian Marriage is opposed to Jewish teaching, to Jewish practice, or to the words of our Lord recorded in the New Testament.

H. Davis, S.J.

Heythrop College, Oxon.

To the Editor, Eugenics Review

The answer by the Rev. H. Davis, S.J., to my quotations from the Bible, seems but an elaborate attempt to explain away a very simple and plain statement of facts attributed to our Lord by St. Matthew, viz.:

"There are some eunuchs which are so born from their mother's womb; and there are some eunuchs which are made eunuchs of men: and there be eunuchs which have made themselves eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven's sake."

I am neither qualified nor disposed to enter into an ecclesiastical controversy, but obviously any commentator can challenge a statement, however clear, by saying it is figurative.

Was the sterilization of the unfortunate slaves, so common in the East, and to which our Lord probably referred, a matter of fact or "to be understood figuratively"?

Whether or not castration was practised among the Jews themselves is beside the question. It is distinctly said in the text quoted above that it was sometimes done for "the kingdom of heaven's sake," but not necessarily by Jews.

It is also to be remarked that Father Davis's arguments give no support whatever to the emphatic condemnation by the Pope for sterilization when done solely for the benefit of mankind, and under the careful restrictions proposed by the *Eugenics Society*.

E. G. WHELER-GALTON.



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Boletim de Eugenia. Dr. Renato Kehl, R. Smith Vasconcellos, 63, (Aquas Ferreas) Caixapostal 2926, Rio de Janeiro.

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